

EXTENDING NETWORK SERVICES USING MOBILE AGENTS

ABSTRACT

A technique fulfills service requests in a system of computers that communicate as nodes within a network. The technique involves sending, in response to an initial service request that requests a service provided by a primary server node, a mobile agent 5 from the primary server node to an intermediate node. The mobile agent indicates to the intermediate node that a secondary server node is capable of providing the service. The technique further involves intercepting, at the intermediate node, a subsequent service request sent from a client node to the primary server node, the subsequent service request requesting the service, and sending an instruction from the intermediate node to 10 the secondary server node. The instruction instructs the secondary server node to provide the service. The technique further includes providing, in response to the instruction, the service from the secondary server node to the client node.